

WELCOME TO
THE CHURCH OF
SAINT LUKE

Easter Sunday - April 4, 2021



17545 Huber Avenue N.W. • Clearwater, Minnesota 55320

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



EASTER SUNDAY

When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. - Jn 20:6-7

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Website www.churchofstlukes.com

Pastoral Emergencies 320-291-5678

Parish Office

Hours Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 am-3:00 pm
Fri. 8:30 am-12:00 pm

Phone 320-558-2124

Email office@churchofstlukes.com

Father Backer
Ext 1 or fatherbacker@churchofstlukes.com

Website www.churchofstlukes.com

Prayer Line 320-558-6169

Trustees Judy Lashinski & Steve LaFond

Finance Council Chairperson Steve Duncan

Pastoral Council Chairperson Tony Leither

Parish Staff

Parish Administrator Sue Miller

Ext 3 or admin@churchofstlukes.com

Director of Faith Formation Marilyn Popp

Ext 2 or stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com

Music Tammy Reinert

Mass Schedule

Weekend

Sat. 5:00 pm; Sun. 8:00 & 10:00 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday—Friday 8:00 am

Saturday—9:00am

Chapel Hours

Sun.—Sat. 5:00 am to 9:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Fri 9:00 am—9:00 pm

Sacraments

Reconciliation

1/2 hour before Daily Mass Tues-Sat

Before weekend Masses:

Sat.- 4:15 PM; Sun.—7:15 & 9:15 AM

And by appointment

Baptisms/Baptism Prep Classes

Prep class required before each baptism, please call parish office to make arrangements.

Weddings

Contact the parish office one year prior to your requested wedding date.

RCIA

Contact: Bruce Fladebo—320-260-3303
brucefladebo@gmail.com

facebook: www.facebook.com/ChurchOfStLukes

PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

HE HAS RISEN!!!! ALLELUIA!!! Happy Easter to all of you and to your families. Lent can be a prayerful and quiet time, it can be a time of fasting and prayer. However, Easter is a time of great JOY!!! We have just been through Holy Week (I pray everything went well) as we remembered the Last Supper and Christ betrayal and His going to the cross. Holy week can be filled with much emotion if we truly think about and reflect on what we are celebrating. It is going through all of those emotions that brings us to the great joy of Easter.

At the first Easter, there was still some confusion about what happened? The tomb was empty, did someone steal the body? But then we start hearing about resurrection appearances. Here, years later, we know what happened before we ever went into Holy Week. We can sometimes not let ourselves get too tied into the sadness of His passion, because we know of his resurrection to come. But as we let ourselves fully take part in the passion, our Easter Joy can be even more joyful.

I have a tradition of sitting down to watch the Passion on Holy Week. Perhaps many of you do the same. It is a busy time of year for me, but I still try and make sure I take the time to prayerfully reflect alone on His Passion and death. Part of the Easter Joy may be having what you gave up for Lent. One word to keep in mind, 'Moderation'!! If you gave up Chocolate, do not gorge yourself with Chocolate. If you gave up something you should have given up anyway, don't give in to going back.

I know this Holy Week and Easter are not yet the same as they were 2 years ago. But this year is a LOT more than last year here at St Luke's. We are starting to see our resurrection from COVID. However, unlike Jesus resurrection, which was instantaneous. We are coming out of the Pandemic Tomb much more slowly, but we are coming out. Each day there are more and more people getting vaccinated. We had a huge drop in new cases from early January to early March, a sure sign we are coming out of the surge. Sure we have seen those new cases start to level off again. We are not done with this. However, I do believe we will continue to see a decline. We have started seeing some relaxations of restrictions. Some from the Governor's office, and some from Archdiocese, but please be patient with how some of these changes are implemented. It will take time, but we are moving in the right direction.

I hope you are able to celebrate Easter in some way today. If the weather is nice and I still have some energy after a very busy couple of days, I may be driving down to a outdoor family gathering. So many of these have been cancelled over the last year, or I have been uncomfortable with putting myself at risk with all I need to do at the parish here. I do believe that as we start gathering again with family and friends, there may be some rebuilding to do. How many of us have had family and friends on very different sides of many of the issues we have been through? The other factor is that as we come out of this pandemic, some are already done with taking precautions and others are not, there needs to be a way of finding out where people are at, not just assuming everyone is where we are. I know last summer a friend and I had wanted to get together and we had waited for so long already (ok, if felt like it was longer than it was). We finally reached a point where we said, "I know you have been careful and I have been careful, I am ok with us getting together." After agreeing on that, we took the next step and agreed that we both would be ok with hugging that day. Many of you know I am a big hugger and I have had a very hard time with not having hugs this last year plus. It has been a huge sacrifice in my life. I believe since that hug last summer, I have gotten 3 more. This has been like going without water for months and being offered a couple of drops of water. It is something I am still looking forward to.

May the Good Lord Bless you with His Easter Joy this year and always.

Fr Backer

Divine Mercy Novena. On Good Friday, the special Divine Mercy novena leading up to Mercy Sunday began. Copies of the Divine Mercy Novena are on the round table in the gathering area or you can find more information about Divine Mercy in the resource center. You can also go on line at EWTN to find out how to participate. Go to EWTN.com and from the menu under "Faith" choose "Devotions" then "Novenas."

Divine Mercy Sunday: Divine Mercy Sunday is the Octave Day or 8th day of Easter, a day that celebrates the merciful love of God shining through the whole Easter Triduum and the whole Easter mystery. It is a day of declaration of reparation for all sin, thus the Day of Atonement. All are invited to attend the **Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer Service at 3:00 p.m. April 11th**. Confessions will start at 2:30 pm and continue throughout the service.

V I S I O N S T A T E M E N T

The Church of St. Luke is a Catholic Community, centered in Christ through baptism and formed by the Eucharist.

We strive to always be a community where every heart is touched by our Christian fellowship.

Faith and Family

Happy Easter! We are celebrating the foundation of our faith! Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. Not only are we celebrating that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, but more importantly that He is risen and lives even now! This time of year in the church is such an exciting time and time of hope. It starts when the risen Christ appears to Mary Magdalene and some other women. They are filled with excitement that Jesus is not dead but alive. The Lord commissions them to tell the apostles that He is risen. At first they are skeptical. But later Jesus appears to the Apostles, and to two distraught followers on the road to Emmaus. No one saw Jesus rise. Instead they saw an empty tomb and they saw Him as the Risen One. He was brought to life in a new way, with a body but a body that was glorified, a body in which His wounds are visible to the doubting Thomas and a body who eats a meal with them, but who also passes through walls. More important is the fact that this Risen Christ lives through us and when we allow Him to do so our faith is believable to others. The transformation of the lives of the early Christians is what made faith in the Risen One believable. Jesus Christ still transforms us today through the mystery of the sacraments. As Catholics we believe that forty days after Jesus' resurrection, Jesus ascended from the earth into Heaven. His resurrected body returns to God. Then Jesus sends a helper ten days after he ascends. He sends us the Holy Spirit to help us live our lives according to his teachings. Jesus Christ is present today through the Mass and in the sacraments, forgiving our sins and giving us graces to live for Him. It is the Risen Body of Christ that nourishes us in the Eucharist. As Catholics we believe that during the consecration in the Mass the ordinary bread and wine are transformed invisibly in the real body and blood of Jesus Christ. So Easter is the new springtime of our Risen Lord! It is the celebration of what Jesus did for us that day on the cross; the great gift of the institution of the Eucharist at the last supper and the gift of the cross that brought us eternal life. Now it is up to each one of us to accept that great gift of eternal life-The gift of allowing Jesus to permeate our hearts. He is Risen! Alleluia!

Confirmation: Please pray for our 10th grade youth as they prepare for their Confirmation, which will be April 11th at 1:00pm here at the Church of St Luke. Due to Covid 19 this is a private Mass for the Confirmation youth and their families. Please pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon these youth.

Archdiocesan Youth Day (AYD) Middle School Edition
 Friday, April 23, 6-10 p.m., St. John the Baptist, New Brighton
 Middle school age students are invited to join speakers including Bishop Andrew Cozzens, Fr. Chad VanHoose and more in the first AYD event designed specifically for this age group. For more information or if interested in attending email Marilyn at stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com

Cuppa Joe: 10 Talks on the 10 Wonders of Saint Joseph: Cuppa Joe is a series of 10 talks by 10 theologians on the 10 wonders of Saint Joseph, taking place at 10 locations in our archdiocese entrusted to the patronage of our spiritual father. These talks will premiere the first Tuesday of the month, March – December, at 4 p.m. – just in time for your afternoon coffee. Talks will be posted on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram – and at archspm.org/synod/stjoseph/

Baptism

Attendance at a one hour Baptismal Preparation Program is **required** and parish registration is expected. Please call the parish office a minimum of 2 months prior to your desired date for baptism to register for the Baptismal Preparation classes.

Weddings

Contact the parish office *one year prior* to your requested wedding date and set up an appointment with Father Backer Marriage Preparation classes and a retreat are required.

Cor Jesu Friday, April 9, 8 p.m. virtual event.

Join us to adore the Lord and be together in prayer, praise and worship at facebook.com/ASPMVocations. The Saint Paul Seminary Class of 2020 alumnus and recently ordained priest, Father Paul Hedman, will preside. Please send prayer requests to stpaulvocations@10000vocations.org or call the Office of Vocations-651-962-6890. The Team will pray for your intentions!

Bethany House Summer Program June 12 – August 7, 2021 – currently accepting applications! Bethany House is a place, set apart, with an environment of support and encouragement for Catholic women as they intentionally discern consecrated life. The women live in community, pray together, have meals together, host Religious Sisters and participate in a discernment book study during the program. For more information and to request an application, see 10000vocations.org

Catholics At The Capitol: On Mission for Life & Dignity
 Thursday, April 15, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul. Join Minnesota Catholics statewide online or in-person on mission to defend life and dignity at the Capitol. Be formed in the faith through Mass. Be informed on the issues by speakers such as internationally renowned champion for life Obianuju Ekeocha, the Archbishop Jose Gomez, USCCB President and Archbishop of Los Angeles. Cost \$20 in-person, \$10 online. Visit CatholicsAtTheCapitol.org for details & tickets. Registration closes March 31st.

God Loves You with a LOVE that is Overflowing... - 1 Thess 3

If you or someone you love is grieving the loss of a child to abortion, come and experience the healing mercy of Jesus Christ on our weekend retreat. The next Rachel's Vineyard Twin Cities' retreat is April 16-18, 2021. For more information contact Nancy at rachels@rvineyardmn.org, call 763-250-9313 or visit www.rvineyardmn.org.

Holy Spirit Academy Monticello: Run, Run, Run, or Walk at beautiful Lake Rebecca Preserve in Rockford 4 Mile Chip Timed Race, May 15th at 10 AM. Proceeds benefit Holy Spirit Academy students. Register at www.HolySpiritAcademy.org

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK: Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Call your neighbor or ask a friend or family member to watch "The Search" with you this Lent and then discuss it. There are lots of other Lenten opportunities on Formed. Check it out, there is so much for all ages to help us grow in our faith this Lenten season. Get signed up. SIGN UP FREE AT: FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP



Mass Schedule & Intentions

Tuesday, April 6th

8:00 am † Denis Waltzing

Wednesday, April 7th

8:00 am † Fr. Stanley Maslowski

Thursday, April 8th

8:00 am Natalia Johnson

Friday, April 9th

8:00 am † Dennis Hilsgen

Saturday, April 10th

9:00 am † Shirley Weber

Saturday, April 10th

5:00 pm † Angeline Nentl

Sunday, April 11th

8:00 am † Al & Mary Imholte

10:00 am Parishioners

Minister's Schedule For April 10th & 11th

The Ministry Heads will be
contacting volunteers to minister.

Spiritual Communion

“My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things
and I desire you with all my heart.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there
and unite myself to you completely.

Please do not let me ever be separated from you.”

Stay in the know: Get The Catholic Spirit — for free!

Be in-the-know with news from your Catholic community and the Church around the world. Get The Catholic Spirit, the award-winning newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, in your home. Free subscriptions for parishioners are available via each parish. Contact your parish office to be added to the mailing list. Or purchase an annual subscription for yourself or a friend at TheCatholicSpirit.com

Natural Family Planning (NFP) Classes teach couples the Church approved methods on how to achieve or postpone pregnancy while embracing the beauty of God's gift of sexuality. For a complete list of classes offered throughout the Archdiocese, visit archspm.org/family or call 651.291.4489.

Upper Room Women's Retreat at St Henry's Monticello - May 22nd Registration is now open for the upcoming Women's Retreat led by Gina Bauer with the theme of the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is always calling us deeper and deeper into the love of the Father and Jesus Christ. Come to the Upper Room to prepare for a beautiful encounter with the God who loves you unconditionally. This will be an all day retreat to be held at St. Henry's on Sat., May 22nd 9AM -4PM, tickets are \$30 and include a boxed lunch. Register online at <https://sthenrycatholic.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/UpperRoom> or call the parish office.



The St Luke parish family wish to express their sympathy to the family and friends of Donnie Niebolte who passed away.

Catholic Services Appeal 2021: Together in Hope The CSAF's "Together in Hope" 2021 began last weekend! What better time to share the love of Christ with neighbors in need? To learn more about all 20 Designated Ministries of the CSAF, visit csafspm.org and check out the "Whom You Help" pages. With Lent beginning this week, please consider committing to help those most in need via a donation to GiveCSAF.org as part of your Lenten almsgiving. Thank you from the hundreds of thousands of ministry recipients of the Catholic Services Appeal Foundation!

Serra Club of Wright County. St. Pope John Paul II called Serra the "Vocation Arm of the Church." We support and affirm our priests, deacons, religious and those in religious formation. The Serra Club of Wright County will meet at the Kings House in Buffalo on Thurs., April 8. Our meeting will start with a rosary in the Chapel at 5:10 followed by Mass at 5:30. A dinner (cost \$15) will be served. Reservations are required for the dinner and can be made by calling Sharon, 763-497-2454, by April 5. Fr. James Devorak will speak at 7 p.m. We welcome you to join us and learn more about the Serra Club of Wright County and our ministry. Please call Marian Meyer at 763-497-2371 or Kate Theisen at 952-955-1544 for more information. We usually meet the second Thurs. evening of each month at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo. Also, please visit Serra's website www.serraus.org

Help for Struggling Couples: Marriage Help: Thinking about Separation or Divorce? Hurting? Angry? Feel helpless? Retrouvaille is a lifeline for troubled marriages. Couples learn the tools to rediscover each other and heal their marriage. Friday April 9 – Sunday April 11, Best Western Hotel, Eagan 100% confidential. \$250 registration fee. www.helpourmarriage.org

Readings for the Week of April 4th

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35
Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [5b]/Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [3b]/Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2, 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-24, 25-27 [22]/Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1, 14-15, 16-18, 19-21 [21a]/Mk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-3

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St. Luke's Calendar

Tuesday, April 6th
 8:00 am Quilting
Wednesday, April 7th
 6:45 pm Faith Formation
Thursday, April 8th
 7:00 pm Liturgy Meeting
Friday, April 9th
 9:00 am — 9:00 pm Adoration

Registration

Welcome to the Church of St. Luke. Please call the parish office to become a registered member.

Prayer Line 558-6169



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Knights of Columbus
St. Luke's Council #14013
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 rdshadrack@gmail.com
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 KofC meeting reminder:
 4th Thursday each month



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